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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 2823**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 8038.0032

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                               |   |                        |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of:         | ) |                        |
|                               | ) |                        |
| Takayuki NIUYA et al.         | ) | Group Art Unit: 2823   |
|                               | ) |                        |
| Application No.: 09/658,193   | ) | Examiner: J. MALDONADO |
|                               | ) |                        |
| Filed: September 8, 2000      | ) |                        |
|                               | ) |                        |
| For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR | ) | Confirmation No. 2409  |
| PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR       | ) |                        |
| DEVICE                        | ) |                        |

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed April 6, 2004, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper.